

REMARKS

Firstly, Applicant sincerely appreciates Examiner for allowance of claims 11-20. Upon the response, Applicant has amended claim 1 to concisely and distinctly define and point out the subject matter which Applicant regards his invention, and respectfully submits that amended claim 1 and all its dependent claims also stand in position for allowance, for the following detailed reasons:

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Beck (US Pat. No. 5,759,063)

More specially, Examiner states that Beck discloses an electrical connector [FIGS. 1 and 2] comprising an insulative housing having a plurality of ports, a receiving portions receiving portions of wires of a beam and latching members. Therefore, Examiner concludes that claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Beck.

Response

Applicant has amended claim 1 by adding "a receiving portion integrally connected to the housing". Amended claim 1 is patentably defined over Beck for the following reasons:

A

Beck, FIGS. 1 and 2, discloses only that the upper and lower pieces 30, 40 adapted to receive the bundle of wires 12 are separated from the connector 20. However, in the invention claimed in amended claim 1, the receiving portion is integrally connected to the housing. Thus, Beck fails to show or disclose each and every limitation of amended claim 1, and the rejection proposed under 35 U.S.C. § 102 should be withdrawn.

B

With the receiving portion integrally connected to the housing, when the wires have ends thereof received in the ports of the housing, the receiving portion receives portions of the wires adjacent to the ends. Thereby the wires are conveniently and efficiently aligned and secured onto the electrical connector. Applicant respectfully submits that the invention claimed in amended claim 1 is superior to Beck. More specifically, firstly, two extra molds must be provided to gain the upper and lower pieces 30, 40 of Beck. Manufacturing costs required to get the extra molds place relatively big cost burden on the shoulders of users if applying the invention of Beck. Secondly, as recited in the specification (col. 1, ll. 50 to 55), the wire guide assembly (namely upper and lower pieces 30, 40) is of a very compact size. With such a miniaturized configuration of the upper and lower pieces 30, 40, it is relatively difficult or effortful to assemble them onto the connector 20.

In view of the above clarification, amended claim 1 is defined patentably over the cited reference and should be allowed.

Claims 2-9 are directly or indirectly dependent on amended claim 1 and should, therefore, be allowed.

Claims 11-20 are kept unchanged for being allowed.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant asserts that all the pending claims are now in proper form and are patentably distinguishable from the prior art. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, and that an action to this effect is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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